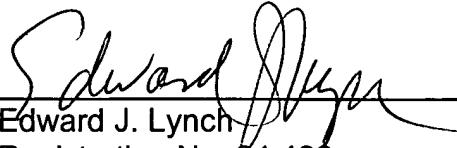


**REMARKS**

Applicant's pending claims are believed to be directed to patentable subject matter. Initial favorable consideration and an early allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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